

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A data processor comprising:
a stream acquiring section for acquiring streams;
an inserting section for inserting identification information between the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section;
a decoding section for sequentially decoding, on the basis of a predetermined unit, the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section and outputting decoded data; and
a detecting section for determining whether or not the identification information is included in a unit that is going to be decoded by the decoding section, wherein if the detecting section has detected the identification information, the decoding section does not output the data in the unit that is going to be decoded and starts to decode the next unit,
wherein the inserting section inserts the identification information into a point where the streams acquired by the stream acquiring section have their stream data discontinued so that a unit in one of the streams is incomplete.

20. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 19, wherein the inserting section inserts a dummy packet as the identification information, and wherein the dummy packet is replaced with an error code.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 19, wherein the stream is a transport stream.

23. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 19, wherein the predetermined unit is picture data.

24. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 19, wherein the stream is not split on the basis of the predetermined unit but on a different unit basis.

25. (Previously Presented) A data processing method comprising the steps of:

- a) acquiring a first stream;
- b) if a second stream, of which the data is discontinuous with the first stream so that a unit in the first stream is incomplete, is acquired after the first stream, adding identification information to the end of the first stream;
- c) acquiring the second stream after the identification information;
- d) decoding the first stream, the identification information and the second stream in this order on the basis of a predetermined unit;
- e) determining whether or not the identification information is included in the unit to be decoded in the step d); and
- f) if the identification information has been detected, starting to decode the next unit without outputting the data in the unit that is going to be decoded.

26. (Previously Presented) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein the identification information is a dummy packet which is replaced with an error code.

27. (Previously Presented) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein the streams are transport streams.

28. (Previously Presented) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein the predetermined unit is picture data.

29. (Previously Presented) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein each of the first and second streams includes a number of units and a portion of a unit, and the first and second streams are split at the portions of the unit.

30. (Currently Amended) A data processor comprising:
a stream acquiring section for acquiring first and second streams which include a number of units;
an inserting section for inserting identification information between the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section;
a decoding section for sequentially decoding the number of units in the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section and outputting decoded data; and
a detecting section for determining whether or not the identification information is included in one of the number of units, wherein if the detecting section has detected the identification information, the decoding section does not output the decoded data associated with the one of the number of units and starts to decode the next unit,
wherein the inserting section inserts the identification information into a point where the streams acquired by the stream acquiring section have their stream data discontinued so that a unit in the first stream is incomplete.

31. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 30, wherein each of the first and second streams includes a portion of one of the number of units, and the first and second streams are split at the portions of the one of the number of units.

32. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 30, wherein the inserting section inserts a dummy packet as the identification information, and wherein the dummy packet is replaced with an error code.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 30, wherein the streams are transport streams.

35. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 30, wherein the units include picture data.